



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
TOWN OF MESILLA
WORK SESSION**

**MONDAY, JULY 27, 2020 AT 5:30 P.M.
VIA TELECONFERENCE 1-346-248-7799**

TRUSTEES: Nora L. Barraza, Mayor
Carlos Arzabal, Mayor Pro Tem
Jesus Caro, Trustee (5:45 p.m.)
Veronica Garcia, Trustee
Stephanie Johnson-Burick, Trustee

STAFF: Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez, Town Clerk/Treasurer
Dorothy Sellers, Special Events Coordinator
Donald Toomey, Judge
Gloria Maya, Recorder

A. Discussion on 2020-2021 Budget & Fiscal Year End Report for the Town of Mesilla – Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez, Clerk-Treasurer.

Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez reviewed the 2020-2021 Budget & Fiscal Year End Report for the Town of Mesilla.

Mayor Barraza stated we would have exceeded in our GRTs had it not been for the COVID-19. She commended the departments for operating within their budgets. Unforeseen circumstances were covered by her budget.

Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal stated this reflects good leadership.

Mayor Barraza stated the budgeted 3% increase for benefits was taken from each department's operating fund in the preliminary budget; since the increase was rescinded it was return to the operating fund. We are waiting to hear from Las Cruces Public Schools regarding funding for the SRO and CSO. She is concerned those positions will not be funded since students will not be returning to the campuses. The SRO will be moved to the budgeted vacant deputy position and be paid through General Fund.

Trustee Garcia asked if the new position is in the budget.

Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez responded it is not in the budget as it has not been approved by the board.

Mayor Barraza responded that will come forth to the board for approval; adjustments will be made at that time.

Judge Toomey stated he is requesting an adjustment to the travel line item of \$1,500; \$800 moved to the

1 postage line item reflecting actual expenses and \$700 be added to the Court Clerk salary and benefits.

2
3 Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal stated he is concerned giving anyone an increase at this time. Everyone
4 deserves a pay increase, but we cannot pick and choose who will get one. Giving only one person a
5 raise would open a can of worms.

6
7 Judge Toomey responded he understands the boards position regarding salary increases and his intent is
8 not to open a can of worms. There is still a need to transfer \$800 from the travel/training line item to
9 the postage line item for the extra mailings being done due to COVID pandemic.

10
11 Mayor Barraza stated we can look at transferring the \$700 during the fiscal year to where it is needed.

12
13 Judge Toomey agreed. He stated due to the pandemic trainings are being done by Zoom, so \$2,000 in
14 the training line item, is not necessary.

15
16 Trustee Garcia stated she understood from Mr. Cervantes that once the budget is approved the Judge can
17 move money around as he wishes.

18
19 Mayor Barraza responded there is a budget transfer process.

20
21 Trustee Garcia stated he would not have to come to the board for approval of a budget transfer if the
22 budget is not being increased.

23
24 Mayor Barraza reiterated he would need to follow the budget transfer process.

25
26 Trustee Johnson-Burick stated according to State Statute the judge has the right to use the funds as he
27 sees fit if he follows the process.

28
29 Mayor Barraza responded Judge Toomey stated he understands the board's position.

30
31 Trustee Johnson-Burick stated a few years ago the board voted to give only the maintenance department
32 an increase. So that should serve as a reminder as how that affects morale.

33
34 Judge Toomey stated he was asking for an increase for the clerk and agrees with Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal
35 that she is not the only employee who needs a raise. His intention is to get along with the trustees and
36 not push something down their throat. He agrees to keeping the \$700 in the travel line item or
37 transferring it to the phone line item to reflect actual expenses.

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39 Mayor Barraza asked Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez to adjust the budget to reflect \$700 more in the phone
40 line item.

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42 Worksession closed at 6:01 p.m.

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**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
TOWN OF MESILLA
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 27, 2020 AT 6:00 P.M.
VIA TELECONFERENCE 1-346-248-7799**

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TRUSTEES: Nora L. Barraza, Mayor
Carlos Arzabal, Mayor Pro Tem
Jesus Caro, Trustee
Veronica Garcia, Trustee
Stephanie Johnson-Burick, Trustee

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STAFF: Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez, Town Clerk/Treasurer
Kevin Hoban, Fire Chief
Eddie Lerma, Marshal
Rod McGillivray, Public Works Director
Dorothy Sellers, Special Events Coordinator
Gloria Maya, Recorder

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1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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Mayor Barraza led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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2. ROLL CALL & DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Roll Call.

Present: Mayor Barraza, Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal, Trustee Caro, Trustee Garcia, Trustee Johnson-Burick.

3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA & APPROVAL

Motion: To approve agenda, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.

Roll Call Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes =4).

Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal Yes

Trustee Caro Yes

Trustee Garcia Yes

Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes

4. PUBLIC INPUT – The public is invited to address the Board for up to 3 minutes.

Public input in writing shall be received at cynthias-h@mesillanm.gov an hour before the meeting begins on the day of the meeting and will be read into the record. You will also be given an opportunity to speak during this time by pressing *9 while in the teleconference. You will be prompted when to begin speaking.

No Public Input.

5. CLOSED SESSION – pursuant to NMSA 1978 Chapter 10-15-1(H)(2): discussion limited to personnel matters in the Marshal's Department. – *Nora L. Barraza, Mayor.*

All members of the public/staff not included in the closed session will be placed in the waiting room until the closed session is concluded. All members not included in closed session will be allowed back into the regular meeting once it reconvenes.

1 **Motion: To closed Regular Meeting and enter Closed Session – pursuant to NMSA 1978 Chapter**
2 **10-15-1(H)(2): discussion limited to personnel matters in the Marshal’s Department, Moved by**
3 **Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal, Seconded by Trustee Caro.**

4
5 **Roll Call Vote:** Motion passed (summary: Yes =4).
6 Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal Yes
7 Trustee Caro Yes
8 Trustee Garcia Yes
9 Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes

10
11 Entered Closed Session at 6:08 p.m.

12
13 **Motion: To close Closed Session and enter Regular Meeting after limited discussion to personnel**
14 **matters in the Marshal’s Department – pursuant to NMSA 1978 Chapter 10-15-1(H)(2); no action**
15 **taken, Moved by Trustee Caro, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.**

16
17 **Roll Call Vote:** Motion passed (summary: Yes =4).
18 Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal Yes
19 Trustee Caro Yes
20 Trustee Garcia Yes
21 Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes

22
23 Entered Regular Meeting at 6:23 p.m.

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26 **6. *APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

27 (The Board will be asked to approve by one motion the following items of recurring or routine business. The
28 Consent Agenda is marked with an asterisk *):

29 Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal requested placing New Business items b and c on the consent agenda.

30
31 **Motion: To approve consent agenda as amended, Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal, Seconded by**
32 **Trustee Garcia.**

33
34 **Roll Call Vote:** Motion passed (summary: Yes =4).
35 Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal Yes
36 Trustee Caro Yes
37 Trustee Garcia Yes
38 Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes

39
40 a) ***BOT Minutes** – Minutes of a Regular Meeting on July 13, 2020. *Approved by consent*
41 *agenda*

42 b) ***PZHAC Case 061075** – 2782 Calle de San Albino, submitted by John Wright; a request for
43 a zoning permit to allow the installation of an in-ground swimming pool and spa in an
44 enclosed court-yard on a residential property at this address. Zoned: Historical Residential
45 (HR). *Approved by consent agenda*

46 c) ***Resolution 2020-12:** of the Town of Mesilla annual Open Meetings Act Resolution.
47 *Approved by consent agenda*

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51 **7. NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1 a) **Resolution 2020-13:** A resolution authorizing the assignment of authorized officer and agents
2 for SAP 20-E2124-STB with the New Mexico Environment Department for 2020 Capital
3 Outlay Project. – **Rod McGillivray, Public Works Director.**
4

5 Mr. McGillivray stated this \$300K is for the replacement of the existing booster stations, known as the
6 rabbit hole.
7

8 Mayor Barraza stated this project was taken to the legislators and approved during the last legislative
9 session.
10

11 **Motion: To approve Resolution 2020-13: A resolution authorizing the assignment of authorized
12 officer and agents for SAP 20-E2124-STB with the New Mexico Environment Department for 2020
13 Capital Outlay Project, Moved by Trustee Johnson-Burick, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal.**
14

15 **Roll Call Vote:** Motion passed (summary: Yes =4).

16 Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal Yes
17 Trustee Caro Yes
18 Trustee Garcia Yes
19 Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes
20

- 21 b) **Resolution 2020-14:** A resolution adopting the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year End Financial Report
22 for the Town of Mesilla. – **Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez, Clerk-Treasurer. Approved by**
23 **consent agenda**
24

- 25 c) **Resolution 2020-15:** A resolution by the Board of Trustees allowing for budget adjustments.
26 – **Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez, Clerk-Treasurer. Approved by consent agenda**
27

- 28 d) **Resolution 2020-16:** A resolution adopting the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Revenue and
29 Expenditures Budget for the Town of Mesilla. – **Cynthia Stoechner-Hernandez, Clerk-**
30 **Treasurer.**
31

32 Mayor Barraza asked Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez to make the adjustments in the court's travel line item to
33 reflect the transfer of \$800 to the postage line item and \$700 to the phone line item as per Judge Toomey.
34

35 **Motion: To approve Resolution 2020-16: A resolution adopting the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Revenue**
36 **and Expenditures Budget for the Town of Mesilla with the changes requested by Judge Toomey,**
37 **Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal, Seconded by Trustee Garcia.**
38

39 **Roll Call Vote:** Motion passed (summary: Yes =4).

40 Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal Yes
41 Trustee Caro Yes
42 Trustee Garcia Yes
43 Trustee Johnson-Burick Yes
44

45 **8. BOARD OF TRUSTEE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

46 Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal: CEO meeting was held in June; next meeting via Zoom, will be in October.
47

48 Trustee Johnson-Burick: MPO special meeting on July 15 – 2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan
49 known as the 2045 Mobility Plan was approved; MPO meeting scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on August 12th
50

1 via Virtual and at the City Chambers. She is working with Andrew to ensure information is on the Town
2 of Mesilla website.

3
4 Trustee Caro: Wastewater Infrastructure Resolution Committee met with Regina; meeting scheduled for
5 next week will be to finish resolutions.

6
7 Fire Chief Hoban: Public Safety Policy Committee meeting was held where items were removed, and a
8 package was compiled that will be presented to the legislators. There was consensus among members
9 that everything is over shadowed by our current health emergency.

10
11 Ms. Stoechner-Hernandez: Financial, Intergovernmental Relations, and Taxation Policy meeting was held
12 to discuss five resolutions concerning local and state tax reform, municipalities relationship with the
13 Taxation and Revenue Department, PERA (deleted) and GRT No Hold Harmless distribution.

14
15 Mayor Barraza: Resolution Meeting Saturday, July 31st from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon to review all the
16 resolutions from the committees; RTD meeting was rescheduled for this week, Mayor's Caucus weekly
17 meeting where it has been decided they will abide with what Governor Lujan Grisham brings forward;
18 has not participated in the OEM meetings due to scheduling conflicts.

19
20 Trustee Johnson-Burick asked for a Moment of Silence for the residents who have died.

21
22 Mayor Barraza stated we have lost many of our residents and asked for names to be submitted to her so
23 that a Moment of Silence can be held at the next meeting.

24 25 **9. BOARD OF TRUSTEE/STAFF COMMENTS**

26 Fire Chief Hoban stated 105 people were tested at the testing site held at the Town Hall on Saturday.
27 Department of Health, Marshal Department and Fire Department did a good job in working together.
28 Test results will be made available in 3-5 days. This is the first of several rural community testing sites.

29
30 Mr. McGillivray stated construction began today for La Llorona Trail. Participated in the DPAC meeting
31 and brought them up to date on.

32
33 Marshal Lerma stated on July 24th Sergeant Azcarate and Deputy Garcia responded to a call at 2839 Sur,
34 regarding a suspicious vehicle. In the apartment they found 2 individuals that were not supposed to be
35 there, 84 grams of methamphetamine (street value of \$5,040), and 2 grams of Heroin (street value of
36 \$200). The female was arrested, the male left the scene in a car which he wrecked into an irrigation ditch.
37 The male has been identified and we feel certain he will be apprehended. This is the 3rd arrest for
38 methamphetamine in the town, especially in that apartment complex. The Body Cams will be up and
39 running in 2 weeks. We will need to incur the cost for the recording and storing devices.

40
41 Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal stated he is comfortable with the budget.

42
43 Trustee Caro stated the mosquito issue needs to be addressed.

44
45 Mayor Barraza responded she is in communication with Mr. Lee and is addressing the problem areas.

46
47 Trustee Johnson-Burick congratulated the departments for the good job on the COVID testing. She was
48 not aware of the drug issue in our community. The bicyclists are excited about the new trail. She
49 supports doing all we can to help our businesses and restaurants during this pandemic. The sign which is
50 bolted in across from the Fountain Theatre was brought to her attention and Mr. Shannon informed her
51 that it was temporary. The sign ordinance addresses temporary signs as well and the process needing to
52 be followed; recommends revisiting the sign ordinance. She also feels comfortable with the 2020-2021

1 budget.

2

3 Mayor Barraza reiterated names are submitted for the Moment of Silence. Mr. Lee cannot spray when it
4 is raining. Farmers are irrigating and with the rain the water just sits there creating larva. He is treating
5 the ponds of water to catch larva before they hatch. Restaurants can have tents but must have only one
6 side closed. Sandwich signs, welcoming signs, open signs, etc. are coming up all over town. She asked
7 how the board would like to address this issue.

8

9 Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal stated he has no problem having a resolution allowing Mayor Barraza to approve
10 temporary sign applications due to COVID19. Businesses are trying to survive anyway they can. The
11 town needs to be business friendly as we rely on their GRTs.

12

13 Trustee Johnson-Burick stated she is not concerned with signs that are not bolted to a surface. She is in
14 favor of a resolution that addresses her concern and supports our businesses.

15

16 Mayor Barraza stated she has asked businesses to come up with plan that she can present to the board.
17 There is a situation where a business on the plaza is obstructed by a restaurant tent. She allowed the
18 business to place sandwich sign. Restaurants who want to extend the tent must come back to the town as
19 inspections need to be redone for the added space. A Special Meeting can be held to proceed on the
20 resolution regarding signs so businesses can move forward. She does not see the governor opening inside
21 dining until numbers come down and if the numbers do not come down, there will be more restrictions.
22 We, the town, need to do what we can to support the businesses but by the same token businesses still
23 need to abide by our rules.

24

25 Trustee Johnson-Burick stated she is willing to help the town and businesses during this challenging
26 crisis.

27

28 Mayor Pro Tem Arzabal agreed we need to become a business-friendly community.

29

30 Mayor Barraza thanked and appreciates the departments for making it possible to provide COVID testing
31 in our community.

32

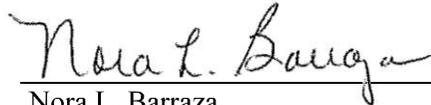
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10. ADJOURNMENT

The Town of Mesilla Trustees unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting. (Summary: Yes-4)

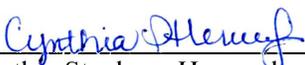
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:28 P.M.

APPROVED THIS 10th DAY OF AUGUST, 2020.



Nora L. Barraza
Mayor

ATTEST:


Cynthia Stoehner-Hernandez
Town Clerk/Treasurer